

FOCUS ON

INFLUENZA

Flu—it's more than just a bad cold.

The flu may start out with symptoms of a common cold, but it quickly turns more serious. Symptoms include high fevers and severe aches and pains. And it can lead to bronchitis and pneumonia. An average of 36,000 people die from the flu every year—and another 200,000 are hospitalized.

Fortunately, the flu can often be prevented. Ask your doctor about getting a flu shot this fall—especially if you are in any of the following groups:



- You are 65 years of age or older, or are a child aged 6-23 months
- You have a chronic medical condition that might put you at increased risk
- You are a woman who will be pregnant during the flu season
- You are a child aged 6 months - 18 years on chronic aspirin therapy
(Note: children of this age should NOT be treated with aspirin for flu symptoms)